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Notes

[Contributions in the form of notes or discussions should be sent to John A. Scott, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.]

ON CAESAR *B.G.* i. 9

The last three lines of the chapter run as follows: *obsidesque uti inter se dent, perficit: Sequani, ne itinere Helvetios prohibeant; Helvetii, ut sine maleficio et iniuria transeant.* All the school editions of Caesar, so far as I have seen, by supplying with *Sequani* the words *obsides dent* or *obsides dant*, or the English word "agreeing," require a translation somewhat as follows: "The Sequanians agreeing not to hinder the Helvetians, and the Helvetians to cross without doing harm. Now the notion of *agreeing* here is nothing more or less than that of *promising*, a notion which never takes an *ut, ne* clause. The subjunctive clauses here are clearly of that variety of purpose clauses that Bennett calls stipulative; but stipulating is not promising but rather demanding a promise on the part of another. It was the purpose or stipulation of the Helvetians that the Sequanians should not hinder them, and of the Sequanians that the Helvetians should cross without doing harm. This meaning is easily obtained from the text by cutting out the usual commas and making *Sequani* the subject of *prohibeant*, placed first for emphasis, and *Helvetii* the subject of *transeant*. In translating, supply after *perficit* the words "the stipulations being."

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